
A New Name in Chinese *Dioscorea* (Dioscoreaceae)

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ABSTRACT. During preparation of the account of Dioscoreaceae for the *Flora of China*, it was noticed that one species is illegitimately named, being a later homonym: *Dioscorea parviflora* C. T. Ting (1979), not Philippi (1864). The following new name (nomen novum) is therefore proposed here: *D. sinoparviflora* C. T. Ting, M. G. Gilbert & Turland.

Dioscorea sinoparviflora C. T. Ting, M. G. Gilbert & Turland, nom. nov. Replaced name: *Dioscorea parviflora* C. T. Ting, in C. Pei et al., *Acta Phytotax. Sin.* 17(3): 69. 1979. Not Philippi, *Linnaea* 33: 257. 1864. TYPE: China. Yunnan: Yongsheng Xian, Xinghe, 1600 m, Mar. 1963, *Q. Y. Liang 63009* (holotype, NAS).

Dioscorea parviflora C. T. Ting (in Pei et al., 1979: 69–70) was described from Yongsheng County (Xian) in northwestern Yunnan Province, China. Unfortunately, the name is illegitimate under Article 53.1 of the *Tokyo Code* (Greuter et al., 1994) because an earlier homonym exists: *D. parviflora* Philippi (1864), described from Chile. The Chinese species will be accepted by Ding and Gilbert, as endemic to Yunnan Province, in their forthcoming account of Dioscoreaceae in the *Flora of China* (in press). Therefore, a new name for *D. parviflora* is required, and *D. sinoparviflora* C. T. Ting, M. G.

Gilbert & Turland is proposed here. *Dioscorea sinoparviflora* is most similar to *D. zingiberensis* C. H. Wright, which is also endemic to China, occurring in Gansu, Henan, Hubei, Hunan, Shaanxi, Sichuan, and Yunnan provinces. *Dioscorea sinoparviflora* differs from *D. zingiberensis* in having perianth lobes 0.8–1.2 × 0.6–0.8 mm (vs. 1.2–1.5 × 0.8–1 mm) and capsules longer than wide (vs. ca. as long as wide). Both species can be readily distinguished from others in China by the peltate attachment of most leaf blades. Moreover, *D. zingiberensis* is the only Chinese species recorded as being monoecious.

Literature Cited

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